WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A doctor blade for use with an imaging apparatus, comprising:

an elongated member; and

a metering surface formed on a portion of said elongated member, said metering surface having surface features which are modified by buffing said metering surface.

2. The doctor blade of claim 1, said buffing being performed by orbital buffing of said metering surface to modify said surface features by rounding.

3. The doctor blade of claim 2, said orbital buffing of said metering surface occurring at about 14,000 revolutions per minute, and having an orbit diameter of about 1.58 millimeters.

4. The doctor blade of claim 1, wherein said buffing of said metering surface occurs in at least two directions.

5. The doctor blade of claim 1, wherein said metering surface is tungsten carbide.

6. The doctor blade of claim 1, wherein said elongated member is made of metal.

7. A method of configuring a doctor blade for use with an imaging apparatus, comprising the steps of:

providing an elongated member;

applying a coating on at least a portion of said elongated member to form a metering surface, said coating defining surface peaks on said metering surface; and

buffing said metering surface to truncate said surface peaks.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the buffing step comprises orbital buffing of said metering surface.

9. The method of claim 8, said orbital buffing of said metering surface occurring at about 14,000 revolutions per minute, and having an orbit diameter of about 1.58 millimeters.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein said buffing occurs in at least two directions.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein said coating is tungsten carbide.

12. The method of claim 7, wherein said elongated member is made of metal.

13. A cartridge for use in an imaging apparatus, comprising:

a developer roll; and

a doctor blade positioned in pressing engagement with said developer roll, said doctor blade having a buffed metering surface.

14. The cartridge of claim 13, said buffed metering surface having surface features that were modified by orbital buffing.

15. The cartridge of claim 14, said orbital buffing of said buffed metering surface occurring at about 14,000 revolutions per minute, and having an orbit diameter of about 1.58 millimeters.

16. The cartridge of claim 13, said cartridge being one of an imaging cartridge including a photoconductive member and a toner cartridge that does not include said photoconductive member.

17. An imaging apparatus, comprising:

a print engine; and

a cartridge configured for mounting on said print engine, said cartridge including

a developer roll; and

a doctor blade positioned in pressing engagement with said developer roll, said doctor blade having a buffed metering surface.

18. The imaging apparatus of claim 17, said buffed metering surface having surface features that were modified by orbital buffing.

19. The imaging apparatus of claim 18, said orbital buffing of said buffed metering surface occurring at about 14,000 revolutions per minute, and having an orbit diameter of about 1.58 millimeters.

20. The imaging apparatus of claim 17, said cartridge being one of an imaging cartridge including a photoconductive member and a toner cartridge that does not include said photoconductive member.